

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method for implementing security features at a portal server,
2 comprising:
3 receiving a first request from a client;
4 in response to receiving the first request, authenticating the client;
5 consulting a database to determine access privileges of the authenticated client for
6 interactions with a plurality of applications, wherein the applications are located at
7 backend servers;
8 generating code containing selectable interactions with the applications, wherein
9 any authentication for the selectable interactions can be performed within the portal
10 server; and
11 sending the code to the client.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 responsive to sending the code to the client, receiving a second request from the
3 client, wherein the second request contains a selection of at least one of the selectable
4 interactions;
5 determining from the selection a set of backend servers to process the second
6 request;
7 forwarding the second request to the set of backend servers;
8 receiving results corresponding to the request from applications executing on the
9 backend servers; and
10 sending the results to the client.

1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein sending the results to the client further
2 comprises:

3 generating further selectable interactions; and
4 sending the further selectable interactions with the results to the client.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the portal server is a Web server and the
2 portal server comprises a portal application.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the database comprises a plurality of
2 generic objects, wherein each generic object contains the access privileges related to a
3 user for the elements of the plurality of applications.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the access privileges indicate write access.

1 7. The method of claim 5, wherein the database is in the form of a table.

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the code is in a form that can be rendered
2 into a Web page.

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the form of the code is comprised of
2 active code, wherein the active code can be executed on the client.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the selectable interactions correspond to
2 operations within the applications.

1 11. The method of claim 1, wherein the selectable interactions correspond to
2 resources related to the applications.

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the resources are selected from the group
2 consisting of multimedia content, objects, files, attributes of objects, program elements,
3 database objects, table entries.

1 13. A method at a backend system for securely making available a backend
2 application, comprising:
3 creating data structures corresponding to interactions with the backend
4 application;
5 associating privileges for each of the data structures, wherein the privileges can be
6 fully checked at a portal application separately hosted from the backend application;
7 receiving a request from the portal application for reading the data structures; and
8 sending the data structures to the portal application.

1 14. The method of claim 13, further comprising:
2 receiving a request for an interaction with the backend application from the portal
3 application;
4 processing the request without checking for the privileges; and
5 sending the results of processing the request to the portal server.

1 15. The method of claim 13, wherein the data structures are data objects.

1 16. The method of claim 13, wherein a representation of the data structure is
2 from the group consisting of a relational database, an XML document and a class.

1 17. The method of claim 13, wherein the interactions are operations that can
2 be performed on the backend application.

1 18. The method of claim 13, wherein the interactions relate to resources
2 associated with the background application.

1 19. A method for accessing a group of applications at a client computer
2 comprising:
3 authenticating with a portal server;
4 receiving a list of applications and interactions that can be performed with the
5 applications from the portal server, wherein the applications are stored at backend servers
6 that are different from the portal server;
7 selecting an interaction; and
8 receiving results based on the selection of the interaction without authenticating
9 with the backend servers.

1 20. The method of claim 19, wherein receiving the results further comprises
2 receiving a set of further interactions selectable by the client.

1 21. The method of claim 19, wherein authenticating, receiving the list,
2 selecting, and receiving results are at a Web browser.

1 22. A system for implementing security features, comprising:
2 a portal server;
3 means for receiving a first request from a client at the portal server;
4 means for authenticating the client, in response to receiving the first request;
5 means for consulting a database to determine access privileges of the
6 authenticated client for interactions with a plurality of applications, wherein the
7 applications are located at backend servers;
8 means for generating code containing selectable interactions with the applications,
9 wherein any authentication for the selectable interactions can be performed within the
10 portal server; and
11 means for sending the code to the client.

1 23. The system of claim 22, further comprising:
2 means for receiving a second request from the client in response to sending the
3 code to the client, wherein the second request contains a selection of at least one of the
4 selectable interactions;
5 means for determining from the selection a set of backend servers to process the
6 second request;
7 means for forwarding the second request to the set of backend servers;
8 means for receiving results corresponding to the request from applications
9 executing on the backend servers; and
10 means for sending the results to the client.

1 24. The system of claim 23, wherein the means for sending the results to the
2 client further performs:
3 generating further selectable interactions; and
4 sending the further selectable interactions with the results to the client.

1 25. The system of claim 22, wherein the database comprises a plurality of
2 generic objects, wherein each generic object contains the access privileges related to a
3 user for the elements of the plurality of applications.

1 26. A system for securely making available a backend application, comprising:
2 a backend system hosting the backend application;
3 means for creating data structures at the backend system corresponding to
4 interactions with the backend application;
5 means for associating privileges for each of the data structures, wherein the
6 privileges can be fully checked at a portal application separately hosted from the backend
7 application;
8 means for receiving a request from the portal application for reading the data
9 structures; and
10 means for sending the data structures to the portal application.

1 27. The system of claim 26, further comprising:
2 means for receiving a request for an interaction with the backend application from
3 the portal application;
4 means for processing the request without checking for the privileges; and
5 means for sending the results of processing the request to the portal server.

1 28. A system for accessing a group of applications comprising:
2 a client computer;
3 means for authenticating with a portal server from the client computer;
4 means for receiving a list of applications and interactions that can be performed
5 with the applications from the portal server, wherein the applications are stored at
6 backend servers that are different from the portal server;
7 means for selecting an interaction; and
8 means for receiving results based on the selection of the interaction without
9 authenticating with the backend servers.

1 29. The system of claim 28, wherein the means for receiving the results further
2 performs receiving a set of further interactions selectable by the client.

1 30. An article of manufacture including code for implementing security
2 features at a portal server, wherein the code is capable of causing operations, the
3 operations comprising:
4 receiving a first request from a client;
5 in response to receiving the first request, authenticating the client;
6 consulting a database to determine access privileges of the authenticated client for
7 interactions with a plurality of applications, wherein the applications are located at
8 backend servers;
9 generating code containing selectable interactions with the applications, wherein
10 any authentication for the selectable interactions can be performed within the portal
11 server; and
12 sending the code to the client.

1 31. The article of manufacture of claim 30, further comprising:
2 responsive to sending the code to the client, receiving a second request from the
3 client, wherein the second request contains a selection of at least one of the selectable
4 interactions;
5 determining from the selection a set of backend servers to process the second
6 request;
7 forwarding the second request to the set of backend servers;
8 receiving results corresponding to the request from applications executing on the
9 backend servers; and
10 sending the results to the client.

1 32. The article of manufacture of claim 31, wherein sending the results to the
2 client further comprises:
3 generating further selectable interactions; and
4 sending the further selectable interactions with the results to the client.

1 33. The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein the portal server is a Web
2 server and the portal server comprises a portal application.

1 34. The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein the database comprises a
2 plurality of generic objects, wherein each generic object contains the access privileges
3 related to a user for the elements of the plurality of applications.

1 35. The article of manufacture of claim 34, wherein the access privileges
2 indicate write access.

1 36. The article of manufacture of claim 34, wherein the database is in the
2 form of a table.

1 37. The article of manufacture of claim 30 wherein the code is in a form that
2 can be rendered into a Web page.

1 38. The article of manufacture of claim 37, wherein the form of the code is
2 comprised of active code, wherein the active code can be executed on the client.

1 39. The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein the selectable interactions
2 correspond to operations within the applications.

1 40. The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein the selectable interactions
2 correspond to resources related to the applications.

1 41. The article of manufacture of claim 40, wherein the resources are selected
2 from the group consisting of multimedia content, objects, files, attributes of objects,
3 program elements, database objects, table entries.

1 42. An article of manufacture, including code for securely making available a
2 backend application at a backend system, wherein the code is capable of causing
3 operations, the operations comprising:
4 creating data structures corresponding to interactions with the backend
5 application;
6 associating privileges for each of the data structures, wherein the privileges can be
7 fully checked at a portal application separately hosted from the backend application;
8 receiving a request from the portal application for reading the data structures; and
9 sending the data structures to the portal application.

1 43. The article of manufacture of claim 42, further comprising:
2 receiving a request for an interaction with the backend application from the portal
3 application;
4 processing the request without checking for the privileges; and
5 sending the results of processing the request to the portal server.

1 44. The article of manufacture of claim 42, wherein the data structures are data
2 objects.

201109-9900001

1 45. The article of manufacture of claim 42, wherein a representation of the
2 data structure is from the group consisting of a relational database, an XML document
3 and a class.

1 46. The article of manufacture of claim 42, wherein the interactions are
2 operations that can be performed on the backend application.

1 47. The article of manufacture of claim 42, wherein the interactions relate to
2 resources associated with the background application.

1 48. An article of manufacture, including code for accessing a group of
2 applications at a client computer, wherein the code is capable of causing operations, the
3 operations comprising:
4 authenticating with a portal server;
5 receiving a list of applications and interactions that can be performed with the
6 applications from the portal server, wherein the applications are stored at backend servers
7 that are different from the portal server;
8 selecting an interaction; and
9 receiving results based on the selection of the interaction without authenticating
10 with the backend servers.

1 49. The article of manufacture of claim 48, wherein receiving the results
2 further comprises receiving a set of further interactions selectable by the client.

1 50. The article of manufacture of claim 48, wherein authenticating, receiving
2 the list, selecting, and receiving results are at a Web browser.